

r nal Application No PCT/GB 03/05673

A CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 G02B6/16 G02B G02B6/20 G02B6/12 C03B37/012 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) GO2B CO3B IPC 7 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, INSPEC, COMPENDEX C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages WO 99/64903 A (BARKOU STIG EIGIL ; BJARKLEV 1-9. X 11-21, ANDERS OVERGAARD (DK); BROENG JES (DK)) 16 December 1999 (1999-12-16) 23-26, 30-36 cited in the application page 22 -page 25; figures 4,15,21 page 28, line 31 -page 29, line 4 page 43, line 22 - line 28 10,27,29 Υ WO 00/49436 A (UNIV BATH ; BIRKS TIMOTHY X 1,2,8, 11-21, ADAM (GB); KNIGHT JONATHAN CAVE (GB); RUS) 25,26, 24 August 2000 (2000-08-24) 28,30-36 cited in the application page 17, line 30 - line 33; figures 9,14 Y WO 02/072489 A (SKOVGAARD PETER M W 10,27,29 ; BROENG JES (DK); CRYSTAL FIBRE AS (DK); JAKOB) 19 September 2002 (2002-09-19) page 34, line 19 - line 35; figure 11 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents : "T" later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but clted to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to Involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date daimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the International search report 22 April 2004 04/05/2004 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Bourhis, J-F Fax (+31-70) 340-3016



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